



## ALAMEDA COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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### ***Transportation Update***

***October 2003***

#### **Issues Taking Shape for the Update of the CMA's Long Range Transportation Plan**

The CMA has begun the update of its 25-year Countywide Transportation Plan. When complete, the Plan will be Alameda County's formal proposal for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's regional transportation plan update, called T 2030.

At the Board's October meeting, the implications of maintaining the existing transit and local road networks were discussed. Based on the work of local jurisdictions, transit operators, CMAs and MTC, estimates have been made of the maintenance needs over the next twenty-five years. These estimates suggest that all available funding for the update of the CMA's plan could be consumed by maintaining the existing system, with no funding left to address congestion and mobility needs. MTC and the CMA will face difficult trade-offs among these competing needs.

The CMA will be discussing the update of its plan and holding public workshops through spring of 2004. The CMA staff is available for presentations to groups interested in the update. Please contact Jean Hart at the CMA offices for further information.

#### **CMA Begins Evaluating Projects for 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program**

Due to the State's financial crisis, little if any new funding is expected in the 2004 STIP. It is unlikely any new projects will be added to the program, and it is more likely that existing STIP projects will need

to be stretched over a longer time period. CMA staff is now evaluating each project in the existing STIP, paying particular attention to readiness and the original cost estimates. On November 20<sup>th</sup> the CMA Board will review a draft recommendation for the 2004 STIP. A final STIP recommendation must be submitted to MTC by December 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **I-680 Sunol Grade Soundwalls to be Constructed**

At its October meeting, the CMA Board authorized the next step in improvements on the Sunol Grade. The Board authorized staff to advertise for bids to construct soundwalls in selected segments of the corridor. These soundwalls will include retaining walls that will set the edge of any future widening. These walls are required to attenuate noise impacts identified through the environmental process. Construction is scheduled to start in 2004 and be complete in spring 2005.

#### **I-680 SMART Carpool Lane Project Progresses**

Recent polling by the CMA for its long-range plan update indicates strong support for demonstrating the effectiveness of the SMART carpool lane concept in the I-680 Sunol Grade corridor. The SMART carpool lane project would permit single occupant autos to use the southbound carpool lane over the Sunol Grade for a fee. Carpools would still go free. The fee would be collected using the FasTrak transponder now used on the toll bridges. Next steps include further refinement of the demonstration project and soliciting local support. Authorizing legislation will also be required.

## Conformance with Congestion Management Program Approaches

Each year the CMA assesses whether local jurisdictions are in conformance with its congestion management program. Local jurisdictions must abide by the requirements of the land use analysis element, transportation demand management requirements and other aspects of the program. Failure to conform could risk gas tax subventions to the affected city or County. Cities and the County have until the November 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to satisfy all requirements of the CMP.

## Project "At Risk" Report Available

A report on the status of state and federally funded projects in Alameda County was presented to the CMA in October. This report indicates which projects need attention in order to meet the state and federal deadlines. Copies are available from the CMA offices.

## Deadlines to Note

### Congestion Management Program – 2003 Conformance

#### *Plans & Programs Committee*

*Recommendation* November 10, 2003  
*CMA Board Action* November 20, 2003

### 2004 Countywide Transportation Plan (CWTP) & 2005 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

*Draft CWTP* April 2004  
*Final CWTP* May 2004  
*Draft RTP* December 2004  
*Final RTP* January 2005

### Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA): Program Manager Funds – Discretionary Transit

Approximately \$880,000 is available.

*Draft Funding Program* November 20, 2003  
*Final Funding Program* December 18, 2003

### 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

*Draft CMA Funding Program* Nov 20, 2003  
*Final CMA Program to MTC* Dec 19, 2003  
*MTC Program to CTC* March 22, 2004  
*CTC Adopts 2004 STIP* July 21, 2004

## Upcoming Meetings

*November* 4 *CMA Technical Advisory Committee*  
 10 *CMA Administration & Legislation Committee*  
 10 *CMA Plans & Programs Committee*  
 10 *Ad Hoc Countywide Transportation Plan Committee*  
 13 *San Pablo Policy Advisory Committee*  
 20 *CMA Board Meeting*

*December* 2 *CMA Technical Advisory Committee*  
 8 *CMA Administration & Legislation Committee*  
 8 *CMA Plans & Programs Committee*  
 8 *Ad Hoc Countywide Transportation Plan Committee*  
 10/11 *CTC (Sacramento)*  
 18 *CMA Board Meeting*

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